WHY THE SEA IS SALT

IT HAS BEEN SO EVER SINCE THE CREATION OF THE WORLD.

Of Great Benefit to Mankind—Continents Produced by the Skeletons of Animals That Could Not Have Lived in Fresh Water.

The sea at present contains [illegible] tons of salt. If this salt could be gathered in a solid form and compressed into the shape of a cube it would contain 10,17[illegible] cubic miles. Each edge of such a cube would measure somewhat more than [illegible] miles. This is enough to cover all the land on this globe with a uniform layer of salt to a depth of a thousand feet.

This statement as to the saltness of the sea is interesting enough in itself, but it is also suggestive. The questions may well be asked: Where did all this salt come from and what is the use of it? Several scientific gentlemen have attempted to answer this first question, and their efforts are not entirely satisfactory. The second question is not so difficult.

According to the history of the creation of the world, as told by Moses in the Genesis, it is implied that the ocean existed before the land, for on the "third day" the "water under the heavens" was gathered together, and the dry land appeared.

This statement has bothered a great number of able philosophers, who in their effort to stick to the letter of the Scripture and at the same time to reason out everything on perfectly natural principles have been puzzled to know how such a grand transformation could be accomplished in one day, and their perplexity was not relieved when learned geologists announced that it must have required ages for the waters that enveloped the earth to subside and reveal this land that lay beneath.

But when it was suggested that the word "day" as used by Moses meant not a period of twenty-four hours, but an era of thousands of years, the difficulty was removed. This meaning of the word "day" is at present generally accepted by devout scientists, who now declare that there is nothing impossible in Moses' account of the creation.

This description, to be sure, is lamentably brief. It was hardly adequate to pass over such a huge event as the creation of a world in a few lines. That was a big story from a newspaper point of view, and all thoughtful persons much acknowledge that Moses did not take advantage of his opportunity.

Accepting the Mosaic account, a learned writer on the physical history of the globe supplies what Moses left out, and in so doing he gives a very good reason for the presence of the salt in the sea. Having arrived at the point of Moses' meager narrative where the earth was in a molten state and surrounded by an envelope of gases and of water vapor, the writer says:

"The carbonates, chlorides and sulphates (chemical combinations of carbon, chlorine and sulphur with oxygen) were changed into silicates. The carbon, chlorine and sulphur, being thus freed from the oxygen, separated in the form of acid gases. These, with nitrogen, vapor of water and a probable excess of oxygen, formed the atmosphere, which was very dense (and also very unhealthy).

"The surface of the earth was covered with lumps of molten rock (probably resembling furnace slag). The depressed parts of the surface were filled with highly heated solutions of hydrochloric and sulphuric acids, which ate into the surface and decomposed it. In this way the silicates were changed to pure silica, taking the form of quartz as the atmosphere cooled, and the condensation of the vaporous atmosphere produced sea water, holding in solution salts of sodium, calcium, magnesium and ammonium. The atmosphere, thus freed of its noxious elements, became pure and fit for man."

It is therefore evident that the sea has been salty from the creation of the world. The salt does not come, as is generally supposed, from friction of the water against salt "rocks" in the bed of the ocean. This, then, answers the first question, Where did the salt come from? The second question is pretty well answered by a scientist.

"It seems," he says, "that the sea was made salt in the beginning as a part of the grand design of the Creator to provide for the system of evolution which has been going on since the creation. Many distinct species of living organisms exist in the sea as a result of its salinity, and their remains have largely contributed to the growth of continents."

The minute creatures that have lived in the sea for ages past have left enduring monuments in the shape of islands, rocks and continents. If the sea had not been salty these marine animals could not have existed and secreted the hard substance known as a "calcareous skeleton," which has largely contributed to the growth of continents. Among these early inhabitants of the sea were corals, crinoids, sea urchins and starfishes.

The saltiness of the sea has also much to do with the ocean currents, which distribute the heat of the tropics over the colder regions of the earth. Currents are largely due to the difference between the specific gravity of sea water and the fresh water of rains. Thus when rain falls on a certain part of the ocean the effort of the heavier salt water of the ocean to establish an equilibrium causes a current.—New York World.

PRIZED HAIR ROPES.

Those Used by the Daring Egg Gatherers of St. Kilda.

An Irish paper not long since offered $1[illegible] for a genuine St. Kildean hair rope such as is used by egg gatherers. On the lonely island of St. Kilda the most appropriate present a young woman can give to her fiance is a rope made of horsehair, or better still of human hair. The rock scalers of this island consider themselves rich above mention if their brides are able to make them such gifts. The ropes are of various lengths, a good one being forty or fifty feet long.

According to a woman traveler who has spent much time at St. Kilda, the ordinary rope consists of a stout hempen cord wrapped round and round with sheep's wool, then with horsehair and finally on the outside with human hair.

It is the work of years to manufacture such ropes—and the maiden of St. Kilda begins very early in her childhood to save her hair combings—and also to dry and bleach certain rough grasses that grow on the wind swept island. The fibers make the cable stronger, and the elastic quality of the hair prevents chafing against the rude cliffs during the rock scaler's descent.

A curiosity collector wanted to buy one of these ropes, which are used by the St. Kilda egg gatherers. He offered $100, but the amount was refused scornfully.

THE ESKIMO SMOKER.

He Dearly Loves Tobacco and Not a Mite of It Is Wasted.

"No man is fonder of tobacco than an Eskimo," said an arctic traveler. "The Eskimo depends for his tobacco solely on the white man. For a pound of it he would sell his oldest son.

"It is odd to see an Eskimo smoke. He chops his tobacco fine and mixes it with chopped willow twigs so as to make it go further. Then he cleans out with a picker of bone the small stone bowl of his pipe, and then he plucks a lock of hair from his deerskin suit and rams it down in the bottom of the pipe bowl so as to prevent any of the finely chopped tobacco from escaping into the stem.

"Finally he lights the pipe and smokes it in a swift series of long, strong puffs so that there may be no waste. Each puff is inhaled deep down into the lungs, and the first puff's smoke is still streaming from the nostrils long after another puff has been started. There must be, you see, no waste. There must be none of that vain combustion of tobacco without benefit to the smoker which goes on continually among us.

"Often the most experienced Eskimo will smoke so hard and fast that tears will stream from his eyes, he will cough violently, and sometimes vertigo and nausea will seize him."—New York Press.

Animals That Are Always Enemies.

Many animals are born with an inherent antipathy for other animals. The excessive fear shown by young rabbits which for the first time smell a ferret and of young turkeys which hear the shrill cry of a hawk they have never heard or seen before are proved examples of the strength of these instinctive antipathies. But the case of the weasel and rat is, perhaps, more to be noticed because of the greater equality of the antagonists. The feud is so bitter that a meeting between them almost certainly means death to one or both. Friendships are not uncommon between the cat and dog and have been known between a dog and wolf, but the mutual attitude of the weasel and rat is invariably war—war that is waged to the death.

The Word "Nugget."

"Nugget" was formerly used to signify a bit or lump of anything, as a "nugget of tobacco." Nowadays, however, it is used principally of gold as it comes from the mine. This use is Australian. Governor Sir William Denison of Australia wrote in 1852, "In many instances the gold is brought to market in lumps or nuggets, as they are called." In Queensland there is a peculiar use of the word unknown in the rest of Australia. There, when a man appropriates unbranded calves, he is said to be "nuggeting."

He Understood.

Paul Louis Courier, when bitterly assailed by a French professor, quietly remarked: "I fancy he must be vexed. He calls me Jacobin, rebel, plagiarist, thief, poisoner, forger, leper, madman, impostor, calumniator, libeler, a horrible, filthy, grimacing ragpicker. I gather what he wants to say. He means that he and I are not of the same opinion, and this is his only way of putting it."

The Best Part.

"You don't resent that author's flagrant plagiarism?"

"No," answered Miss Cayenne. "After reading the original portions of his work I wish he had plagiarized more."—Washington Star.

HUNTING WILD PIGS.

An Exciting Sport In the Fastnesses of New Zealand.

In the fastnesses of New Zealand are herds of wild pigs, descendants of those left there by Captain Cook. Hunting these beasts is one of the sports of the country. A writer says: "There is a tremendous commotion in the scrub as if a squadron of horses were striving to force a passage through it. We stand clear in the open. Some of us have recollections, not altogether pleasant, associated with manuka scrub and a wild boar's tusks. Rifles are raised to shoulders as a tiny youngster, scarcely bigger than a spaniel, darts into the open. We lower the guns. The pig is allowed to escape unharmed. Now there is a dreadful row, exceeding all the preceding noises, on the very verge of the scrub. A dog limps out, a spreading patch of red that he never got from the dew laden manuka boughs showing on his side. There is no mistake this time. At the extreme right of our line a huge boar, with the dogs at his heels, bursts half blinded from the scrub. The man nearest levels his rifle. The rest of us stand mute, expectant, watching for the effect of our comrade's fire.

"A flash, a report, a tiny column of gray smoke quivering upward; the boar, evidently unharmed, gains the scrub on the other side of the open. Surely our comrade, the best shot in the country, has not missed at that distance. No, he had not missed, as was afterward proved. The bullet had glanced along the thick, armor-like hide of the animal's shoulder, only making a slight mark. This hide, which frequently exceeds one inch in thickness, will turn any bullet that strikes at all in an oblique direction. Impatient at the failure of his shot, the man follows in close pursuit. The remainder of the party proceed in the same direction as quickly as the thick undergrowth will allow.

"We can see from the motion of the scrub that the animal is making for the entrance of a deep gully that runs right into the heart of the hills. Straight up the gully they go, the fleeing boar and his eager pursuer, with the yelping dogs in close attendance. The rifle speaks once more, and we press anxiously forward. The shot has taken effect this time. The boar stands at bay facing the dogs; the blood is trickling from his side; he sways as if about to fall. Our comrade, thinking the victory already secured and wishing to put the animal out of pain as soon as possible, drops his rifle and pulls his knife from its sheath.

"But the boar, sore wounded though he is, makes a furious rush, while the man, springing backward, trips over a piece of rock and falls headlong amid the scrub. Half stunned he lies there helpless, unable to save himself from the rend of the cruel tusks. The gallant dogs rush in; there is a moment of deadly conflict, a rending of flesh and a howl of agony, and one of the faithful brutes lies dying in the scrub beside his master. The pig is just turning once more toward our prostrate comrade when we happily arrive on the scene. The man has escaped with torn [illegible]s and a few scratches."

The Kind She Wanted.

Husband—Anything you want in town today, my dear? Shall I order some more of that self rising flour?

Wife—We have plenty left, but I wish you would stop at a registry office and order me a self rising servant girl.—Illustrated Bits.

Preparing the Soil.

"I notice the young Widow Prettyman doesn't have her widow's weeds so much in evidence now."

"No; she's clearing those weeds away. I believe she sees signs of a second crop of orange blossoms."—Philadelphia Ledger.

That's Why.

"You say you conceal nothing from your wife?"

"Absolutely nothing."

"And why do you not?"

"It is evident that you do not know my wife."—Houston Post.

Nothing can bring you peace but yourself; nothing can bring you peace but the triumph of principles.—Emerson.

Lectures and Learning.

I have gained nothing whatever from any lecture I ever heard excepting an increased power of forgetting.—Confession by the Head Master of Eton.

Always Pursuing.

"What's your occupation, sir?"

"Mine is a pursuit. I'm a bill collector, you know."

KILL THE COUGH AND CURE THE LUNGS

WITH Dr. King's New Discovery

FOR CONSUMPTION COUGHS and COLDS

Price 50c & $1.00 Free Trial.

Surest and Quickest Cure for all THROAT and LUNG TROUBLES, or MONEY BACK.

When you want...

A nice Buggy or Carriage to take a drive,
A good Saddle Horse for a canter or exercise,
Goods Delivered, or Hauling of any Kind done, call

The Alderman Stables

Dogs, Guns and Guides Furnished for Hunting Parties. We can send drivers with you if you wish.
Horses are Boarded and well taken care of.
Transients Fed at any time.
WE SELL WOOD and deliver it to you.

J. G. COATS & CO.
FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA
Near the Depot Telephone 1[illegible]

Groceries at Wholesale

Consumers!
Your Attention, Please

We sell you groceries at Wholesale Prices.
Write for our price list. Great money saver.

Enterprise Grocery Co
17 BRIDGE STREET Jacksonville, Fla

WILLIAM A. BOURS JAMES C. [illegible]

WILLIAM A. BOURS & CO

The Oldest Established Grain and Seed House in the State.
Warehouses A. C. L. Ry. Catalog Free.
HAY, GRAIN, FEED,
Garden Seeds, PoultrY Supplies, Flour,
Cotton Seed Meal, Grits, Meal and Fertilizers.
OUR MOTTO: Prompt Shipments, Reliable Goods.
206 East Bay St. Jacksonville, Fla.

McCormick, Hubbs & Co.
COMMISSION MERCHANTS
FLORIDA FRUITS AND VEGETABLES
279 Washington St., New York
SPECIALTIES Pineapples, Oranges, Grapefruit, Early Vegetables

A
Practical, Servicable, Well-Built
WAGON!

That's what the people of this country want. Built of the b[illegible] material, light in weight, wide tire, easy running and nicely f[illegible]ished. THE MIMS WAGONS are THE BEST for all u[illegible]

R. E. MIMS, Jr. Prop. THE MIMS SHOPS Telephone Fort Pierce

RONALD & FISKE
COCOA, FLA.
DeMooy 2 Cycle Engines
Standard 4 Cycle Engines
Our Business is Strictly Cash!!
Marine Engine Supplies, Boat Fittings, Hardware
Batteries, Spark Plugs, Spark Coils, Switches, Carburetors, Wire Rope, Cleats, Chocks, Tobin Bronze Shafting, Brass and Iron Pipe, Elbows, Tees, Unions, Sheet Brass and Copper, Brass and Iron Half Round, Brass, Iron and Copper Rods, Fenders and Life Preservers, Steering Wheels, Anchors, Bow and Side Lights, Best Grade of Carpenters' Tools.
Our prices are low, our goods are best. Write for catalog

Pineapple Crates, Wraps and Nails.
The "Bond" Crate; best quality Wraps, Cement Coated Nails. See our samples and get our prices before buying. We want your orders. Write us at Eau Gallie.
EAST COAST LUMBER AND SUPPLY CO.
Yards at Fort Pierce, Eau Gallie, Titusville and West Palm Beach